

**Executive Order 2003–13**  
(Supersedes Executive Order 2001-06)

**Establishing the Governor’s Commission to  
Prevent Violence Against Women**

**WHEREAS**, violence against women cuts across all social, economic and ethnic lines; and

**WHEREAS**, the crime of physical or sexual assault when directed at any person violates his or her privacy, dignity, security rights and humanity; and;

**WHEREAS**, research indicates that violence against women is happening at epidemic proportions – approximately one out of three women will be a victim of domestic violence in her lifetime and;

**WHEREAS**, battering of women in their own homes accounts for more injuries to women requiring medical treatment than rapes, muggings, and car accidents combined; and;

**WHEREAS**, children who witness abuse are more likely to grow up being abusers or abused themselves; and;

**WHEREAS**, abuse of the elder population is increasing dramatically and often goes without being reported;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this state, hereby create the Governor’s Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women and order and direct:

1. The Commission shall:

- Be appointed by, and serve, without compensation, at the pleasure of the Governor.
- Meet at the call of the chair, but no fewer than four times per year.
- Submit a report of its activities to the Governor the first day of January of each year.
- Have a chair from its membership appointed by the Governor.
- Advise the Governor on proposed legislation and existing laws relating to violence against women issues.
- Work with entities throughout the State to ensure community-planning efforts are coordinated.

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- Work with entities throughout the State to raise awareness around the issues of violence against women.
  - Have Ad Hoc Committees that are appointed by the Chair to develop recommendations on policy and legislative issues related to violence against women.
  - The Ad Hoc Committees may include interested members of the community who are not Commission members. The Chair shall determine the Ad Hoc Committee membership.
  - The members will represent a cross-section of Arizonans providing ethnic, geographic, gender, age and profession diversity.
  - The members of the Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women shall be experts in areas of violence against women issues whose livelihood may be impacted by the decisions of the commission. They shall be expected to recuse themselves from discussions and decisions in areas where there may be the appearance of a conflict of interest.
2. This Commission supercedes the Governor's Commission on Prevention of Family Violence and assumes all responsibilities and roles previously held by the Governor's Commission on Prevention of Family Violence.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

**GOVERNOR**

DONE at the Capital in Phoenix this third day of April in the Year Two Thousand and Three and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Twenty-Seventh.

**ATTEST:**

SECRETARY OF STATE